

Filed for intro on 02/07/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 447  
By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Eugene Hattaway for his dedication to the Grammy-nominated men's chorus, TheCenturymen.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their personal efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mr. Eugene Hattaway of Paint Rock in Roane County, who is a dedicated member of the world-renowned men's chorus, The Centurymen; this remarkably talented group has been nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Classical Crossover Album; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hattaway has been a dynamic component of the group since 1972; he is the minister of music at the First Baptist Church in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, each member of The Centurymen is a director or former director of music from Baptist churches that span the country; these exemplary members represent twenty-two states, several are from Tennessee, and two foreign countries; and

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WHEREAS, the rigorous auditions ensure that the group is made up of some of this nation's most talented and skilled musicians; there are 135 members who come together and perform breathtaking programs in churches, concert halls, and on television; and

WHEREAS, the grandeur of The Centurymen is known the world over; the choir appears both nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hattaway has shared his exceptional talents with the choir during their debuts in the People's Republic of China, Russia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Switzerland, Israel, and Brazil; and

WHEREAS, now in their 31<sup>st</sup> year, the outstanding group will complete a much anticipated tour of Midwestern and Southern states, as well as plan for future performances in Bern, Switzerland as the feature group at the Church Music Symposium in 2003; and

WHEREAS, the choir is under the brilliant direction of Mr. Buryl Red, a graduate of Baylor and Yale Universities, he has been the music director and principal arranger since the group's establishment; and

WHEREAS, recognized for their spectacular talents and musical gifts, The Centurymen have been nominated for their first Grammy Award with the extraordinary album "Beautiful Star"; and

WHEREAS, the Grammy-nominated album is described as a mix of traditional, classical and contemporary music, and as one of six nominations in the classical crossover category, the group feels good about their chances of winning the highly esteemed award; the awards show will air on February 23, 2000; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Eugene Hattaway for his devotion to The Centurymen, and commend him for his service as an exceptional representative of the vast array of musical talent within this state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. Eugene Hattaway for his dedication to the world-renowned, Grammy-nominated men's chorus, The Centurymen, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.